
FW: Renewed media coverage of drug diversion incident at Sharp Grossmont Hospital

1 message

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Renewed Media Coverage of Drug Diversion Incident at Sharp Grossmont Hospital

Date April 1, 2019

To All Sharp HealthCare Boards

From Chris Howard, President and CEO, Sharp HealthCare

Subject Renewed Media Coverage of Drug Diversion Incident at Sharp Grossmont Hospital

I wanted to share with you a memo (attached) that we are sending to all Sharp employees today about renewed media interest this past weekend and today around the drug diversion investigation at Sharp Grossmont Hospital's Women's Health Center that occurred in 2012-13.

The latest story first appeared locally on KGTV News 10 last Friday evening, and has since appeared online on BuzzFeed, *The Hill*, *The Daily Caller* and other media, and there will be a story tomorrow morning on "Good Morning America" on ABC. Additional coverage will likely continue throughout the week.

Also attached is our official statement to the media regarding this issue. These documents can help answer any questions friends, family members and associates may have about this story. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

 **Sharp HealthCare Drug Diversion Statement April 1 2019.pdf**
223K



Sharp HealthCare Drug Diversion Statement – April 1, 2019

Between July 2012 and June 2013, a computer monitor with a motion-activated camera was installed in each of Sharp Grossmont Hospital's three Women's Center operating rooms, where it was previously detected that powerful drugs were missing from the anesthesia carts. The three cameras were installed and operated to insure patient safety by identifying the person or persons responsible for the removal of the drugs. Although the cameras were intended to record only individuals in front of the anesthesia carts removing drugs, others, including patients and medical personnel in the operating rooms, were at times visible to the cameras and recorded.

An initial lawsuit alleging privacy violations and other claims stemming from the video recording was filed against Sharp HealthCare and Sharp Grossmont Hospital in 2016. The case remains active and Sharp is unable to comment further about this matter.

Sharp HealthCare and Sharp Grossmont Hospital continue to take extensive measures to protect the privacy of our patients. The surveillance methods in the 2012-13 investigation were used for this particular case only and have not been used again. We sincerely regret that our efforts to ensure medication security may have caused any distress to those we serve.